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ARTICLE 19
Amendment
& TRANSLATION

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World Intellectual Property Organization
PCT Division
34 Chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland

Amendment of the claims under Article 19 (1) (Rule 46)

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Applicant's File Reference: 3213

Dear Sir:

The Applicant, who received the International Search Report relating to the above-identified International Application filed on 26 July, 2004, hereby files an amendment under Article 19 (1) as in the attached sheets.

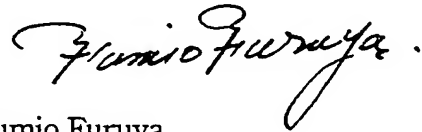
The Applicant hereby replaces sheet No. 41 with new sheet Nos. 41- 41/5. Thus, claims 16- 30 are newly added. Claims 1- 15 are retained unchanged.

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The Applicant also files as attached herewith a brief statement explaining the amendment and indicating any impact that amendment therein might have on the description and drawings.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fumio Furuya', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Fumio Furuya

Attachments:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Amendment under Article 19(1) | 6 sheets |
| 2. Brief Statement | 1 sheet |

条約 19 条 (1) に基づく説明書

請求の範囲第 16 項～第 30 項は、請求の範囲第 1 項～第 15 項の「方法」に対応する「装置」の請求の範囲として追加しました。

(13) 請求項12に記載の無線パケット通信方法において、
前記データパケット内のデータフレームの数が1つの場合には、前記種別フィールド以外のフィールドを省略して前記メインヘッダを形成することを特徴とする無線パケット通信方法。

5 (14) 請求項12に記載の無線パケット通信方法において、
受信した各データパケットのメインヘッダの種別フィールドの値から種別フィールドの構成を確認し、

前記各データパケットごとに、メインヘッダのフレーム数フィールドの値に応じて、データフレームのサブヘッダのデータサイズから対応するデータフレーム
10 を順次切り出し、

受信したデータパケットに含まれるデータフレームを復元することを特徴とする無線パケット通信方法。

(15) 請求項13に記載の無線パケット通信方法において、
受信した各データパケットのメインヘッダの種別フィールドの値から種別フィールドの構成を確認し、
15

前記各データパケットごとに、データフレームのサブヘッダのデータサイズから対応するデータフレームを順次切り出し、

受信したデータパケットに含まれるデータフレームを復元することを特徴とする無線パケット通信方法。

20 (16) (追加) 複数のデータフレームの結合または切り貼りによって生成された特殊フォーマットのデータパケットと、1つのデータフレームから生成された標準フォーマットのデータパケットを無線局間で伝送する無線パケット通信装置において、

前記特殊フォーマットに対応した無線局は、

25 前記データパケットを送信する前に、前記特殊フォーマットに対応している無線局のみが受信可能な確認パケットを送信する手段と、

前記確認パケットを受信したときにその送信元の無線局を特殊フォーマットに対応しているものとして管理し、その無線局に対して特殊フォーマットに対応している無線局のみが受信可能な応答パケットを送信する手段と、

前記応答パケットを受信したときにその送信元の無線局を特殊フォーマットに対応しているものとして管理する手段と、

自局の管理情報に従って、送信先の無線局が前記特殊フォーマットに対応している場合には前記特殊フォーマットのデータパケットを送信し、前記特殊フォーマットに対応していない場合には前記標準フォーマットのデータパケットを送信する手段と

を備えたことを特徴とする無線パケット通信装置。

(17) (追加) 請求項16に記載の無線パケット通信装置において、

データパケットを送信する無線局は、送信するデータパケットの制御情報領域の中に、少なくとも前記標準フォーマットと特殊フォーマットの区別を表すフォーマット識別情報を設定する手段を含み、

前記データパケットを受信した無線局は、受信したデータパケットの制御情報領域に含まれる前記フォーマット識別情報の内容に応じて前記標準フォーマットまたは特殊フォーマットを選択し、選択したフォーマットの定義に従って前記データパケットを受信処理する手段を含む

ことを特徴とする無線パケット通信装置。

(18) (追加) 請求項16に記載の無線パケット通信装置において、

データパケットを受信した無線局は、受信したデータパケットの制御情報領域から送信元の無線局を識別し、自局の管理情報に従って送信元の無線局が対応しているフォーマットを認識し、認識したフォーマットの定義に従って前記データパケットを受信処理する手段を含む

ことを特徴とする無線パケット通信装置。

(19) (追加) 複数のデータフレームを切り貼りした特殊フォーマットの複数のデータパケットを作成し、無線局間で並列送信する無線パケット通信装置において、

前記複数のデータフレームのそれぞれに、データサイズを表すフィールド、フレームの順番を表すフィールド、後続フレームの有無を表すフィールドを含むサブヘッダを付加する手段と、

前記サブヘッダが付加されたデータフレームを結合して1つのデータブロック

を作成し、この1つのデータブロックを各パケット長が揃うように分割して並列送信数のデータブロックを作成する手段と、

- 前記並列送信数のデータブロックのそれぞれに、切り貼りされたデータフレームの復元に必要な情報を含むメインヘッダを付加し、さらにその前後にデータパケットの制御情報領域およびチェック領域を付加してデータパケットを作成する手段と

を備えたことを特徴とする無線パケット通信装置。

(20) (追加) 請求項19に記載の無線パケット通信装置において、

- 前記メインヘッダは、データパケット内のデータフレームおよびフラグメントの数に応じたメインヘッダの構成を示す種別フィールドと、データパケット内のフレーム数を示すフレーム数フィールドと、データパケット内のフレーム開始位置をバイト単位で表す第1フレーム開始位置フィールドと、データフレームが分割されたフラグメントの有無と位置を示すフラグメントフィールドを有する

ことを特徴とする無線パケット通信装置。

- 15 (21) (追加) 請求項19に記載の無線パケット通信装置において、

前記メインヘッダは、データパケット内のデータフレームおよびフラグメントの数に応じたメインヘッダの構成を示す種別フィールドと、データパケット内のフレーム開始位置をバイト単位で表す第1フレーム開始位置フィールドを有する

ことを特徴とする無線パケット通信装置。

- 20 (22) (追加) 請求項20または請求項21に記載の無線パケット通信装置において、

前記データパケット内のデータフレームおよびフラグメントの数が1つの場合には、前記種別フィールド以外のフィールドを省略して前記メインヘッダを形成する手段を含む

- 25 ことを特徴とする無線パケット通信装置。

(23) (追加) 請求項20に記載の無線パケット通信装置において、

受信した各データパケットのメインヘッダの種別フィールドの値からメインヘッダの構成を確認する手段と、

前記データパケットのメインヘッダの第1フレーム開始位置フィールドの値か

ら、データフレームのサブヘッダの開始位置を認識し、そのサブヘッダのデータサイズから対応するデータフレームを切り出す手段と、

- 前記データパケットのメインヘッダのフレーム数フィールドとフラグメントフィールドの値から、データフレームが続く場合にはそのサブヘッダのデータサイズから対応するデータフレームを切り出し、前記フラグメントが続く場合には、
 5 後続するデータパケットの先頭にあるフラグメントとの結合処理を行い、受信した各データパケットに含まれる複数のデータフレームを復元する手段と
 を備えたことを特徴とする無線パケット通信装置。

(24) (追加) 請求項21に記載の無線パケット通信装置において、

- 10 受信した各データパケットのメインヘッダの種別フィールドの値からメインヘッダの構成を確認する手段と、

前記データパケットのメインヘッダの第1フレーム開始位置フィールドの値から、データフレームのサブヘッダの開始位置を認識し、そのサブヘッダのデータサイズから対応するデータフレームを切り出す手段と、

- 15 切り出したデータフレームに続くサブヘッダのデータサイズと前記サブヘッダに後続する部分のサイズを比較して、データフレームかデータフレームが分割されたフラグメントかを識別し、データフレームが続く場合にはそのサブヘッダのデータサイズから対応するデータフレームを切り出し、前記フラグメントが続く場合には、後続するデータパケットの先頭にあるフラグメントとの結合処理を行
 20 い、受信した各データパケットに含まれる複数のデータフレームを復元する手段と

を備えたことを特徴とする無線パケット通信装置。

(25) (追加) 請求項22に記載の無線パケット通信装置において、

- 受信した各データパケットのメインヘッダの種別フィールドの値からメインヘ
 25 ッダの構成を確認する手段と、

前記種別フィールドの構成から前記データフレームおよびフラグメントの数が1の場合には、サブヘッダのデータサイズと前記サブヘッダに後続する部分のサイズを比較して、データフレームかデータフレームが分割されたフラグメントかを識別し、データフレームが続く場合にはそのサブヘッダのデータサイズから対

応するデータフレームを切り出し、前記フラグメントが続く場合には、後続するデータパケットの先頭にあるフラグメントとの結合処理を行い、受信したデータパケットに含まれるデータフレームを復元する手段と

を備えたことを特徴とする無線パケット通信装置。

- 5 (26) (追加) 複数のデータフレームを結合した特殊フォーマットの1または複数のデータパケットを作成し、無線局間で送信する無線パケット通信装置において、

前記データフレームに、データサイズを表すフィールド、フレームの順番を表すフィールド、後続フレームの有無を表すフィールドを含むサブヘッダを付加する手段と、

- 10 前記サブヘッダが付加されたデータフレームを結合したデータブロックを作成する手段と、

前記データブロックに、結合されたデータフレームの復元に必要な情報を含むメインヘッダを付加し、さらにその前後にデータパケットの制御情報領域および

- 15 チェック領域を付加してデータパケットを作成する手段と

を備えたことを特徴とする無線パケット通信装置。

- (27) (追加) 請求項26に記載の無線パケット通信装置において、

前記メインヘッダは、データパケット内のデータフレームの数に応じたメインヘッダの構成を示す種別フィールドと、データパケット内のフレーム数を示すフ

- 20 レーム数フィールドとを有する

ことを特徴とする無線パケット通信装置。

- (28) (追加) 請求項27に記載の無線パケット通信装置において、

前記データパケット内のデータフレームの数が1つの場合には、前記種別フィールド以外のフィールドを省略して前記メインヘッダを形成する手段を含む

- 25 ことを特徴とする無線パケット通信装置。

- (29) (追加) 請求項27に記載の無線パケット通信装置において、

受信した各データパケットのメインヘッダの種別フィールドの値から種別フィールドの構成を確認する手段と、

前記各データパケットごとに、メインヘッダのフレーム数フィールドの値に応

じて、データフレームのサブヘッダのデータサイズから対応するデータフレームを順次切り出し、受信したデータパケットに含まれるデータフレームを復元する手段と

を備えたことを特徴とする無線パケット通信装置。

- 5 (30) (追加) 請求項28に記載の無線パケット通信装置において、

受信した各データパケットのメインヘッダの種別フィールドの値から種別フィールドの構成を確認する手段と、

前記各データパケットごとに、データフレームのサブヘッダのデータサイズから対応するデータフレームを順次切り出し、受信したデータパケットに含まれる

- 10 データフレームを復元する手段と

を備えたことを特徴とする無線パケット通信装置。

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A wireless packet communication method for transmitting a data packet in a special format and a data packet in a standard format between STAs, the data packet in a special format being generated by connecting or patching a plurality of data frames, the data packet in a standard format being generated from one data frame, characterized by comprising:

transmitting a request packet from an STA supporting the special format before transmitting the data packet, the request packet being receivable only by an STA supporting the special format;

managing, by an STA having received said request packet and supporting the special format, a transmit-side STA of said request packet as one supporting the special format, and transmitting therefrom to the transmit-side STA a reply packet which is receivable only by the STA supporting the special format;

managing the transmit-side STA of said reply packet as one supporting the special format, by the STA having received said request packet and supporting the special format; and

transmitting, according to management information in an own station, the data packet in the special format when a receive-side STA supports the special format, and transmitting the data packet in the standard format when the receive-side STA does not support the special format.

2. The wireless packet communication method according to claim 1, characterized by further comprising:

setting, by the STA transmitting a data packet, format identification information in a control information field of a data packet to be transmitted, the format identification information at least indicating a distinction between the standard format and special format;

and

selecting, by the STA having received the data packet, the standard format or special format according to contents of said format identification information included in the control information field in the received data packet, and subjecting the data packet to reception
5 processing according to a definition of the selected format.

3. The wireless packet communication method according to claim 1, characterized by further comprising

identifying, by the STA having received the data packet, the transmit-side STA from a control information field in the received data packet, recognizing, according to the
10 management information in the own station, a format which the transmit-side STA supports, and subjecting the data packet to reception processing according to a definition of the recognized format.

4. A wireless packet communication method for generating a plurality of data packets in a special format in which a plurality of data frames are patched, and transmitting the data
15 packets simultaneously between STAs, characterized by comprising:

adding, to each of said plurality of data frames, a subheader including a field indicating a data size, a field indicating an order of a frame, and a field indicating presence/absence of a subsequent frame;

generating one data block by connecting the data frames having the subheaders
20 added thereto, and generating a number of data blocks by dividing the one data block so that the data blocks have a uniform packet time length, the number of data blocks corresponding to a number of simultaneous transmissions; and

adding a main header to each of the number of data blocks corresponding to the number of simultaneous transmissions, and adding a control information field of the data
25 packet before each of the data blocks having the main header added thereto and adding a

frame check field of the data packet thereafter, to generate the data packets, the main header including information necessary to restore the patched data frames.

5. The wireless packet communication method according to claim 4, characterized in that

5 said main header includes: a class field indicating a structure of the main header according to numbers of data frames and fragments in the data packet; a frame number field indicating a number of frames in the data packet; a first frame starting position field indicating a frame starting position in the data packet in unit of byte; and a fragment field indicating presence/absence of a fragment as a divided data frame and a position thereof.

10 6. The wireless packet communication method according to claim 4, characterized in that

 said main header includes: a class field indicating a structure of the main header according to numbers of data frames and fragments in the data packet; and a first frame starting position field indicating a frame starting position in the data packet in unit of byte.

15 7. The wireless packet communication method according to claim 5 or claim 6, characterized in that

 said main header is formed without the field(s) except for the class field when the numbers of data frames and fragments in the data packet are one.

8. The wireless packet communication method according to claim 5, characterized by
20 further comprising:

 checking the structure of the main header according to a value of the class field of the main header in each data packet received;

 recognizing a starting position of the subheader of the data frame according a value of the first frame starting position field of the main header in the data packet, and cutting out
25 a corresponding data frame from a data size of the subheader;

according to values of the frame number field and the fragment field of the main header in the data packet, cutting out a corresponding data frame from the data size of the subheader when a data frame follows, and performing connecting processing with a fragment at a head of a subsequent data packet when a fragment follows; and

5 restoring the plurality of data frames included in each data packet received.

9. The wireless packet communication method according to claim 6, characterized by further comprising:

checking the structure of the main header according to a value of the class field of the main header in each data packet received;

10 recognizing a starting position of the subheader of the data frame according a value of the first frame starting position field of the main header in the data packet, and cutting out a corresponding data frame from a data size of the subheader;

comparing the data size of the subheader following the cut-out data frame with a size of a portion subsequent to the subheader to distinguish whether it is a data frame or a
15 fragment as a divided data frame, cutting out a corresponding data frame from the data size of the subheader when a data frame follows, and performing connecting processing with a fragment at a head of a subsequent data packet when a fragment follows; and

restoring the plurality of data frames included in each data packet received.

10. The wireless packet communication method according to claim 7, characterized by
20 further comprising:

checking the structure of the main header according to a value of the class field of the main header in each data packet received;

comparing the data size of the subheader with a size of a portion subsequent to the subheader to distinguish whether it is a data frame or a fragment as a divided data frame,
25 when the numbers of data frames and fragments are one according to the structure of said

class field, cutting out a corresponding data frame from the data size of the subheader when a data frame follows, and performing connecting processing with a fragment at a head of a subsequent data packet when a fragment follows; and

restoring the data frame included in the received data packet.

- 5 11. A wireless packet communication method for generating one or a plurality of data packet(s) in a special format in which a plurality of data frames are aggregated, and for transmitting the data packet(s) between STAs, characterized by comprising:

adding subheaders to the data frames, the subheaders each including a field indicating a data size, a field indicating an order of a frame, and a field indicating
10 presence/absence of a subsequent frame;

generating a data block by aggregating the data frames having the subheaders added thereto; and

adding a main header to the data block, and adding a control information field of the data packet before the data block having the main header added thereto and adding a frame
15 check field of the data packet thereafter, to generate the data packet, the main header including information necessary to restore the aggregated data frames.

12. The wireless packet communication method according to claim 11, characterized in that

said main header includes a class field indicating a structure of the main header
20 according to a number of data frames in the data packet, and a frame number field indicating a number of frames in the data packet.

13. The wireless packet communication method according to claim 12, characterized by further comprising

forming the main header without the fields except for said class field when the
25 number of data frames in the data packet is one.

14. The wireless packet communication method according to claim 12, characterized by further comprising:

checking the structure of the class field according to a value of the class field of the main header in each data packet received;

5 cutting out, for each of the data packets, corresponding data frames sequentially from data sizes of subheaders of the data frames according to a value of the frame number field of the main header; and

restoring the data frames included in the received data packet.

15. The wireless packet communication method according to claim 13, characterized by
10 further comprising:

checking the structure of the class field according to a value of the class field of the main header in each data packet received;

cutting out, for each of the data packets, corresponding data frames sequentially from the data size of the subheader of the data frame; and

15 restoring the data frame included in the received data packet.

16. A wireless packet communication apparatus for transmitting a data packet in a special format and a data packet in a standard format between STAs, the data packet in a special format being generated by connecting or patching a plurality of data frames, the data packet in a standard format being generated from one data frame, characterized in that

20 an STA supporting the special format comprises:

a unit transmitting a request packet before transmitting the data packet, the request packet being receivable only by the STA supporting the special format;

a unit managing a transmit-side STA as one supporting the special format when receiving said request packet, and transmitting to the transmit-side STA a reply packet which
25 is receivable only by the STA supporting the special format;

a unit managing the transmit-side STA as one supporting the special format when receiving said reply packet; and

a unit transmitting the data packet in the special format when a receive-side STA supports the special format, and transmitting the data packet in the standard format when it does not support the special format, based on management information in an own station.

17. The wireless packet communication apparatus according to claim 16, characterized in that:

the STA transmitting the data packet includes a unit setting format identification information in a control information field of a data packet to be transmitted, the format identification information at least indicating a distinction between the standard format and special format; and

the STA having received the data packet includes a unit selecting the standard format or special format according to contents of said format identification information included in the control information field in a received data packet, and subjecting the data packet to reception processing according to a definition of the selected format.

18. The wireless packet communication apparatus according to claim 16, characterized in that

the STA having received the data packet includes a unit identifying the transmit-side STA from a control information field in the received data packet, recognizing, according to the management information in the own station, a format which the transmit-side STA supports, and subjecting the data packet to reception processing according to a definition of the recognized format.

19. A wireless packet communication apparatus for generating a plurality of data packets in a special format in which a plurality of data frames are patched, and for transmitting the data packets simultaneously between STAs, characterized by comprising:

a unit adding, to each of said plurality of data frames, a subheader including a field indicating a data size, a field indicating an order of a frame, and a field indicating presence/absence of a subsequent frame;

5 a unit generating one data block by connecting the data frames having the subheaders added thereto, and generating a number of data blocks by dividing the one data block so that the data blocks have a uniform packet time length, the number of data blocks corresponding to a number of simultaneous transmissions; and

a unit adding a main header to each of the number of data blocks corresponding to the number of simultaneous transmissions, and adding a control information field of the data
10 packet before each of the data blocks having the main header added thereto and adding a frame check field of the data packet thereafter, to generate the data packets, the main header including information necessary to restore the patched data frames.

20. The wireless packet communication apparatus according to claim 19, characterized in that

15 said main header includes a class field indicating a structure of the main header according to numbers of data frames and fragments in the data packet, a frame number field indicating a number of frames in the data packet, a first frame starting position field indicating a frame starting position in the data packet in unit of byte, and a fragment field indicating presence/absence of a fragment as a divided data frame and a position thereof.

20 21. The wireless packet communication apparatus according to claim 19, characterized in that

said main header includes a class field indicating a structure of the main header according to a number of data frames and fragments in the data packet, and a first frame starting position field indicating a frame starting position in the data packet in unit of byte.

25 22. (Addition) The wireless packet communication apparatus according to claim 20 or

claim 21, characterized in that

said main header is formed without the field(s) except for said class field when the numbers of data frames and fragments in the data packet are one.

23. The wireless packet communication apparatus according to claim 20, characterized

5 by further comprising:

a unit checking the structure of the main header according to a value of the class field of the main header in each data packet received;

a unit recognizing the starting position of the subheader of the data frame according a value of the first frame starting position field of the main header in the data packet, and

10 cutting out a corresponding data frame from the data size of the subheader; and

a unit cutting out a corresponding data frame from the data size of the subheader when a data frame follows, and performing connecting processing with a fragment at a head of the subsequent data packet when a fragment follows, according to the values of the frame number field and the fragment field of the main header in the data packet, to restore the plurality of data frames in each data packet received.

24. The wireless packet communication apparatus according to claim 21, characterized by further comprising:

a unit checking the structure of the main header according to a value of the class field of the main header in each data packet received;

20 a unit recognizing the starting position of the subheader of the data frame according to the value of the first frame starting position field of the main header in the data packet, and cutting out a corresponding data frame from the data size of the subheader; and

a unit comparing the data size of the subheader following the cut-out data frame with a size of a portion subsequent to the subheader to distinguish whether it is a data frame

25 or a fragment as a divided data frame, cutting out a corresponding data frame from the data

size of the subheader when a data frame follows, and performing connecting processing with a fragment at a head of the subsequent data packet when a fragment follows, to restore the plurality of data frames in each data packet received.

25. The wireless packet communication apparatus according to claim 22, characterized
5 by further comprising:

a unit checking the structure of the main header according to a value of the class field of the main header in each data packet received; and

a unit comparing the data size of the subheader with a size of a portion subsequent to a subheader to distinguish whether it is a data frame or a fragment as a divided data frame,
10 when the numbers of data frames and fragments are one according to the structure of said class field, cutting out a corresponding data frame from the data size of the subheader when a data frame follows, and performing connecting processing with a fragment at a head of the subsequent data packet when a fragment follows, to restore the data frame in the received data packet.

26. A wireless packet communication apparatus for generating one or a plurality of data packet(s) in a special format in which a plurality of data frames are aggregated, and transmitting the data packet(s) between STAs, characterized by comprising:

a unit adding subheaders to the data frames, the subheaders each including a field indicating a data size, a field indicating an order of a frame, and a field indicating
20 presence/absence of a subsequent frame;

a unit generating a data block by aggregating the data frames having the subheader added thereto; and

a unit adding a main header to the data block, and adding a control information field of the data packet before the data block having the main header added thereto and adding a
25 frame check field of the data packet thereafter, to generate the data packet, the main header

including information necessary to restore the aggregated data frames.

27. The wireless packet communication apparatus according to claim 26, characterized in that

said main header includes a class field indicating a structure of the main header
5 according to a number of data frames in the data packet and to a frame number field indicating a number of frames in the data packet.

28. The wireless packet communication apparatus according to claim 27, characterized by further comprising

a unit forming the main header without the fields except for said class field when the
10 number of data frames in the data packet is one.

29. The wireless packet communication apparatus according to claim 27, characterized by further comprising:

a unit checking the structure of the class field according to a value of the class field of the main header in each data packet received; and

15 a unit cutting out, for each of the data packets, corresponding data frames sequentially from the data sizes of the subheaders of the data frames, according to a value of the frame number field of the main header, to restore the data frames included in the received data packet.

30. The wireless packet communication apparatus according to claim 28, characterized
20 by further comprising:

a unit checking the structure of the class field according to a value of the class field of the main header in each data packet received; and

a unit cutting out, for each of the data packets, corresponding data frames sequentially from the data size of the subheader of the data frame, to restore the data frame

25 included in the received data packet.

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